

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

In the Official Action, which has been made final, the Examiner first acknowledged the allowance of Claims 1, 4, 6-13, 17, 20-22, and Claim 33 however, did indicate the Final Rejection of Claims 23-28. The Examiner did object to Claims 29 and 30-32 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but did indicate that these claims would be allowable over the prior art if amended in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner further indicated that Claim 1 is generic and allowable and that Claim 8 is no longer withdrawn from consideration as it depends indirectly upon Claim 1. Claims 2-3, 5, 14-16 and 18-19 had been indicated by the Examiner as being withdrawn from consideration as they were directed to an unelected species.

In response, Applicants hereby cancels Claims 23-28 reserving the right to file these Claims as a divisional/continuation application.

In response, Applicants have amended Claims 29 and 30 to cast them in independent form to incorporate all of the limitations of their respective base claim (Claim 23) and any intervening claims. Thus, the subject matter of canceled Claims 23 and 27 is being incorporated in amended Claim 29 and the subject matter of canceled Claims 23, 27 and 28 is being incorporated in amended Claim 30.

In light of the amendments to Claims 29 and 30, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 29 and 30-32 are now allowable.

As Claim 1 has been indicated as being generic and allowable, applicants respectfully re-submit Claims 2-3, 5, 14-16 and 18-19. To this end, Applicants have amended Claims 2 and 3 to re-cast them in dependent form, dependent upon allowable Claim 1.

In view of the foregoing remarks herein, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance be issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with the Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned, Applicants' attorney, at the following telephone number: (516) 742-4343.

Respectfully submitted,



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